



**HIGHLIGHTS:**

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## Commercial Fruit Utilized Production

**UTAH:** Utah's 2004 apple, apricot, and peach, utilized production estimates were up from 2003, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service. Estimates of utilized production for tart cherries, sweet cherries, and pears were lower than 2003. Utilized production for 2004 was as follows: apples, 29.5 million pounds, 2 million pounds more than 2003; apricots, 290 tons, 130 tons more than 2003; sweet cherries, 1,600 tons, 400 tons less than 2003; tart cherries, 22.0 million pounds, 4 million pounds less than 2003; peaches, 4,550 tons, 200 tons more than 2003; and pears, 300 tons, 80 tons less than 2003.

Value of production for Utah's 2004 fruit crop and change from 2003 were as follows: apples, \$6.5 million, up \$2.2million; apricots, \$177,000 up \$83,000; sweet cherries, \$1.6 million down \$2.1 million; tart cherries, \$5.4 million; down \$1.6 million; peaches, \$2.9 million, down \$578,000; and pears, \$118,000, down \$180,000.

**UNITED STATES:** Utilized apple production for 2004 is estimated at 9.93 billion pounds, up 15 percent from the 2003 level. Utilized production for Washington and New York increased 30 percent and 7 percent, respectively, while Michigan's utilized production decreased 19 percent compared to last year. In Washington, excellent growing conditions allowed production to rebound from the short 2003 crop. Yield potential in Michigan was reduced by a hard freeze during the first week of May. Widespread hail storms in the early Fall further curtailed Michigan production. Heat in California and remnants of the hurricanes in Pennsylvania reduced utilized production from 2003. Utilized peach production in 2004 is estimated at 1.23 million tons, up 2 percent from the previous year and 1 percent above 2002. The California crop, accounting for 76 percent of the U.S. utilized peach production, is up 1 percent from 2003. For California, the Clingstone peach estimate is up 7 percent but the Freestone estimate is down 6 percent from 2003. Utilized pear production for 2004 is 888,400 tons, down 4 percent from the previous year. Washington, the top producing State, utilized 386,000 tons, down 9 percent from 2003. California, the second largest producer at 269,000 tons, is down 1 percent from the previous season. Utilized pear production in

Oregon, the third largest producing State, is 208,000 tons, up 4 percent from 2003.

## U.S. Cold Storage Highlights

**Frozen food stocks** in refrigerated warehouses on December 31, 2004 were greater than year earlier levels for chicken, eggs, fruit, vegetables, pork, and beef. Butter stocks were down 9 percent from last month and down 48 percent from a year ago. **Total red meat supplies** in freezers were up 7 percent from last month and up 11 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were up 11 percent from last month and up 3 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were up 67 percent from last month and up 16 percent from last year. **Total frozen poultry supplies** on December 31, 2004 were 4 percent below the previous month, but 5 percent above a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 5 percent from the previous month, but up 19 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were down 2 percent from last month and down 19 percent from December 31, 2003.

### Stocks in Cold Storage, United States

Commodity	Dec 31, 2003	Nov 30, 2004	Dec 31, 2004
1,000 Pounds			
Eggs .....	18,036	17,324	19,583
Chicken .....	611,472	769,185	729,689
Turkey .....	354,039	294,868	288,292
Total Poultry	966,703	1,064,635	1,018,686
Beef .....	395,084	463,297	479,584
Pork .....	470,656	436,332	483,643
Lamb & Mutton ..	3,795	3,715	3,436
Total Red Meat ...	878,958	912,602	974,878
Cheese, Natural ..			
American .....	491,419	481,244	477,528
Swiss .....	26,237	25,934	26,331
Other Natural ..	206,730	197,073	196,373
Butter .....	99,613	57,177	51,795
Cherries, Tart			
RTP .....	68,945	81,816	74,427
Juice .....	1,707	1,223	1,259
Cherries, Sweet ..	6,655	9,075	8,189
Apples, Fresh ....	4,114,748	5,911,840	5,231,196
Potatoes .....	1,120,418	1,219,345	1,069,071

## U.S. Cattle on Feed Up Slightly

**Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on January 1, 2005. The inventory was slightly above January 1, 2004 and 6 percent above January 1, 2003. The inventory included 7.19 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.05 million head, down 7 percent from January 1, 2004. **Placements** in feedlots during December totaled 1.83 million, 5 percent above 2003 and 14 percent above 2002. This is the highest placements for the month of December

since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.74 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 465,000, 600-699 pounds were 558,000, 700-799 pounds were 489,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 322,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during December totaled 1.78 million, 2 percent above 2003 but 1 percent below 2002. **Other disappearance** totaled 92,000 during December, 2 percent above 2003 but 7 percent below 2002.

### Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000 + Capacity Feedlots, United States, January 1, 2003- 2005

Item	Number			2004 as % of	
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004
	1,000 Head			Percent	
On Feed Dec 1 <sup>1 3</sup>	10,946	11,335	11,344	104	100
Placed on Feed during Dec <sup>3</sup>	1,610	1,748	1,834	114	105
Fed Cattle Marketed during Dec <sup>3</sup>	1,799	1,740	1,777	99	102
Other Disappearance during Dec <sup>2 3</sup>	99	90	92	93	102
On Feed Jan 1 <sup>1</sup>	10,658	11,253	11,309	106	100

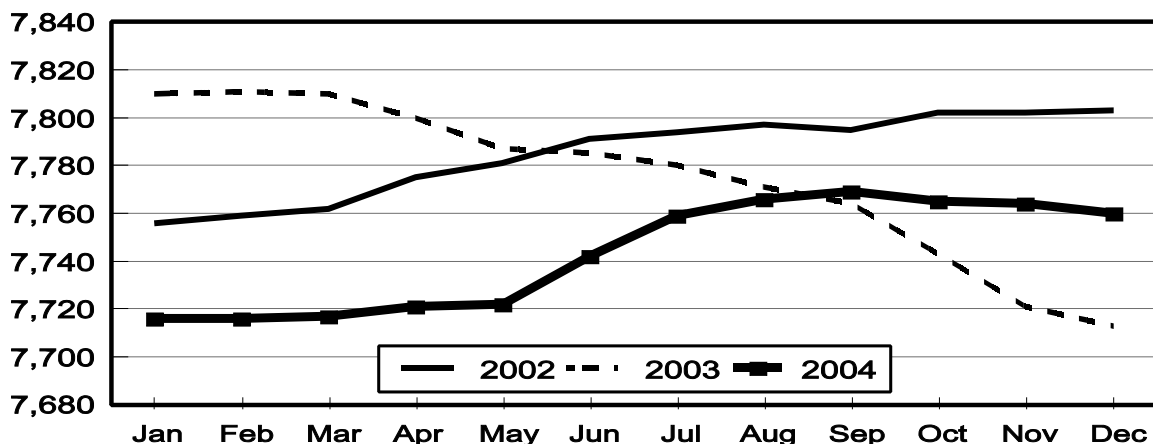
<sup>1</sup> Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. <sup>2</sup> Includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding. <sup>3</sup> December preceding year.

## U.S. December Milk Production Up 1.0 Percent

**Milk production** in the 20 major States during December totaled 12.4 billion pounds, up 1.0 percent from December 2003. November revised production, at 11.9 billion pounds, was up 1.2 percent from November 2003. The November revision represented an increase of 5 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. **Production per cow** in the 20 major States averaged 1,602 pounds for December, 6 pounds above December 2003. **The number of milk cows** on farms in the 20 major States was 7.76 million head, 47,000 head more than December 2003, but 4,000 head less than November 2004.

### Monthly Milk Cows 20 States

Thousand Head



## Agriculture Prices

**Utah:** Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-January 2005, compared with December 2004 were down for barley, alfalfa hay, and other hay, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lamb price for December 2004 was \$99.00 per cwt, down \$3.00 from January 2004. The December 2004 sheep price, at \$41.00 was \$7.00 higher than January 2004.

Baled alfalfa hay was \$85.00 per ton, down \$2.00 from last month but up \$1.00 from last year. Other hay, at \$75.00 per ton, was \$8.00 lower than last month but \$4.00 above January 2004.

**United States:** The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 110, based on 1990-92=100, is 1 point (0.9 percent) below the December Index. The Crop Index is down 3 points (2.9 percent) while the Livestock Index is up 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for broilers, cattle, oranges, and snap beans. Lower prices were received for tomatoes, dairy, eggs, and broccoli. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of cattle, corn, soybeans, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of grapes, dairy, tobacco, and cotton. This preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 2 points (1.8 percent) from January 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 115, is 1 point (0.9 percent) below last month but 2 points (1.8 percent) above January 2004.

### Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005 <sup>2</sup>	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005 <sup>2</sup>
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	102.00	99.00	<sup>2/</sup>	104.00	102.00	<sup>2/</sup>
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	34.00	41.00	<sup>2/</sup>	43.80	44.80	<sup>2/</sup>
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	2.39	<sup>3/</sup>	1.94	2.69	2.47	2.37
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	84.00	87.00	85.00	84.80	92.40	90.90
Other Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	71.00	83.00	75.00	70.20	67.10	70.60

<sup>1</sup> Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

<sup>2</sup> Beginning January 2005 Utah has been dropped from the monthly sheep price program.

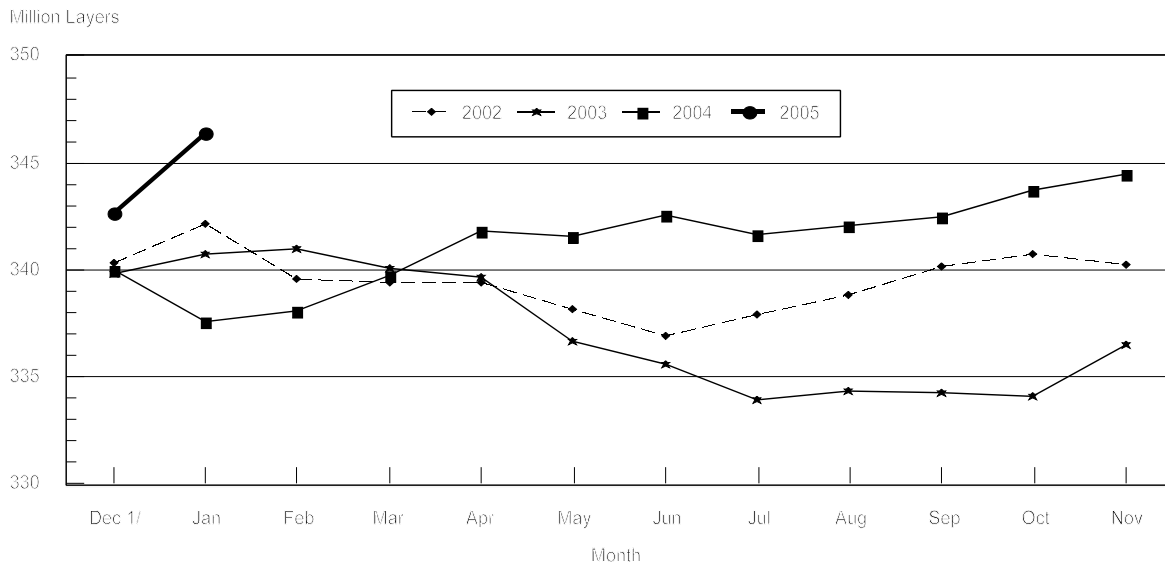
<sup>3</sup> Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

## US December Egg Production Up 2 Percent

**U.S. egg production** U.S. egg production totaled 7.70 billion during December 2004, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.62 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 62 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2004 averaged 345 million, up 2 percent from a

year earlier. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,235 eggs, up 1 percent from December 2003.

### All Layers: 1st of Month United States , 2002 - 2005



1/ Previous Year